Never Sheathe the Sword
Until Victory Is Won

Nippon Times

The Die Is Cast, Let's
Fight to the Last!

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JAPANESE REPULSE ENEMY AIR RAIDERS IN PACIFIC BATTLES

Attacks on Rabaul, Taroa, Mille, Prove Abortive in Face of Stiff Defense

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, March 19.—The Imperial Japanese Forces successfully repulsed a total of 100 enemy planes including B-24's, B-25's and fighters that attempted to attack this base on the afternoon of March 16. Our damage was slight. They also repulsed about 86 B-24's, F4U's and carrier-borne bombers that carried out daylight raids here on the following day. No damage was done.

Taroa Raiders Fail

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC, March 19.—Imperial Japanese Forces on the spot repulsed 10 enemy SBD's and Grumman fighters that attempted to attack Taroa Island in the Maloelap Lagoon in the Marshall Group on the morning of March 17. No damage was suffered by the Japanese side.

Mille Raiders Repulsed

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC, March 19.—Three enemy B-24's which attempted to raid Mille Island in the Marshall Group were immediately repulsed by Units of the Imperial Japanese Forces stationed there. No damage was caused to the Japanese.

Java Raid Also Smashed

Domei

SURABAYA, March 19.—The Japanese Forces on the spot repulsed 12 enemy B-24's that attempted to attack the eastern tip of Java yesterday morning. Slight damage was done to Japanese ground installations.

SERIOUS COAL SHORTAGE ADMITTED FACED IN U.S.

Wartime Fuel Bureau Issues Statement Output Cannot Meet Expected Demand

Domei

LISBON, March 17.—America will shortly be suffering from a serious shortage of coal, it was revealed in a statement issued by the American Wartime Fuel Bureau on March 8, according to Washington reports. The statement said:

"The amount of coal which will be in demand in America in 1944 is estimated to reach 620,000,000 tons.

"The state of production today is such that there is no hope of meeting such an enormous demand. A shortage of bituminous coal to the extent of 20,000,000 tons is anticipated. As for anthracite, the shortage in the amount needed for household uses in the central States on the Atlantic coast and New England alone is anticipated to amount to 5,000,000 tons. It is necessary for us to try to overcome this shortage of coal by an adjustment of its distribution of coal and the practice of economy in fuel."

SOVIETS GETTING FLEET

Transfer of Badoglio Warships Taking Place in Near Future

Special

LISBON, March 18.—The transfer of the Italian fleet to a specially appointed Soviet naval committee is to take place in the very near future, according to a radio report from Algiers.

Soviet naval officers will be placed in command of the Italian ships while at least thirty per cent of the crew will be Soviet sailors. The surplus Italian sailors are to be distributed among Soviet naval units in the Black Sea.

U.S. Discharges Unfit Men

Special

LISBON, March 17.—More than 750,000 men of the United States armed forces have been discharged since December 1, 1941 because they were physically unfit, a recent issue of the Colliers magazine revealed. This figure includes about 11,000 wounded soldiers. The remaining number is made up by men suffering from ailments which were overlooked at the initial medical examination.

Nippon Army Planes Again Blast Hengyang In Furious Dawn Raid

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE, Central China, March 18.—In the wake of the raids which were conducted on the air bases at Kweilin, Hengyang and Suichuan at dawn on March 14, the Japanese Army Air Units, again at dawn today, struck at Hengyang airfield in four furious attacks. Despite poor visibility, the Army planes advanced in formation over the enemy base and after driving off the enemy fighter planes which rose to meet them and despite the intense anti-aircraft fire from the ground, thoroughly blasted the field and other military installations, including the runway which had been newly repaired. A large explosion was caused at one spot while columns of smoke were seen issuing from two other places that had been set on fire. All the Japanese planes returned safely to their base.

CHUNGKING ON BRINK OF TOTAL COLLAPSE

Financial Chaos, Lax Discipline in Army Crippling War Effort

Chungking's war structure is steadily crumbling under the stress of the war of resistance against Japan which has entered its seventh year, according to a recent Shanghai dispatch to the Tokyo Shimbun.

There are two reasons for this imminent collapse of Chungking's structure—first, the hopelessly desperate state of the regime's financial affairs, and second, the rapid relaxation of discipline among the officials and people of Chungking.

The very fact that prices are amounting at a rate hitherto unknown even in Chungking, is an indication of the extreme financial plight now facing that regime.

In a recent radio talk to his people General Chiang Kai-shek admitted that in the past three years prices had risen to a level 100 times that of pre-war days and that furthermore, the morality of the people had declined accordingly.

Serious Conditions Noted

Various items of news from the Chungking press and other sources throw much light upon the deplorable conditions now existing in Chiang-controlled regions.

A general of the Chungking army is paid a regular salary of 850 yuan a month. If he lives in Chungking he receives an allowance of 1,500 yuan but only 720 yuan if he lives outside Chungking.

The regular pay of a sub-company officer is 62 yuan with an allowance of 500 yuan if he lives in Chungking and 240 yuan if he lives outside. A private receives a salary of 20 yuan with no allowance.

The Chungking soldiers are paid in the fapi currency which has lost most of the value. With prices rising with a record-breaking rapidity, these soldiers are finding it difficult to support themselves and their families. Their salaries and allowances put together do not amount to much in terms of purchasable goods. If a general wishes to buy a shirt he has to pay as much as he earns in a whole month, which is 2,350 yuan.

The question very naturally arises of how officers who draw salaries which are obviously only a mere pittance, manage to keep body and soul together. It is clearly evident that they do not subsist on their pay alone.

One very lucrative source of income for the officers living outside of Chungking has been the looting of the peasant population. Though

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NEW ANGLO-U.S. TALK NOW IN PREPARATION AS UNITY IS MENACED

May Revise Atlantic Charter to Satisfy Soviets — Simms Blasts Moscow Actions

Special

LISBON, March 17.—Recent political steps taken by Moscow have necessitated another conference at an early date between Churchill and Roosevelt, usually well-informed quarters in Washington predicted, according to a report from Reuter's correspondent Robert Vivian in the American capital.

The visit of Assistant Secretary of State Stettinius to London was being regarded as a step in preparation of this conference he stated. Vivian also said that Roosevelt and Churchill will probably attempt to reach an agreement on the following points: the Anglo-American attitude toward the recognition of the Badoglio Government by Moscow, the awkward position of King Peter of Jugoslavia and his government in view of Moscow's support of Marshal Tito, and the revision of the Atlantic Charter with a view of adapting it to the wishes of the Soviet Union concerning border regulations.

Soviet Action Scored

Special

LISBON, March 18.—"Another Teheran is overdue," declared William Philip Simms, writing in the New York World Telegram. Although certain military decisions were agreed upon politically at the Teheran Conference, Simms said, the relations between the three great allied Powers, the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union, had now become estranged as never before. Referring to President Roosevelt's first speech after the Teheran Conference given last Christmas eve in which the President assured that the rights of every nation, whether big or small, must be respected most scrupulously and safeguarded, and to the statement in the same speech in which the President declared that the doctrine that strong must rule over the weak was "the doctrine of the enemy which we reject," Simms said, Moscow, in word and deed, has acted contrary to what Roosevelt had declared. Therefore discrepancies have developed in their relations with Washington. Simms concluded that America's cooperation in shaping the post-war world is doubtful if Russia can not be induced to recognize Washington's thesis.

Doubts Are Expressed

Special

GENEVA, March 18.—Serious doubts have arisen in the United States as to whether the so-called alliance between Great Britain and the United States was meant really seriously and whether there was any actual value to be attached to the Teheran Agreement, writes the Daily Mail correspondent in a weekly report from Washington.

The report also revealed that the American people doubted the validity of the Atlantic Charter since the small nations in Europe were obviously being sacrificed to Soviet aims. Furthermore, the article declared that the Americans were beginning to question Britain's honest desire to set up a second front, and concluded that the feeling in the United States was anything but confident.

Veto Move Opposed

Special

LISBON, March 18.—Criticizing Prime Minister Churchill's veto of the House of Commons debate on the Atlantic Charter, the Labor or-

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 3)

'Oust Roosevelt Regime,' Says Tirade Note Blasting Sacrifices Forced on U.S. People

Special

LISBON, March 17.—Restriction of food supplies and fuel in the United States in order to supply its allies was criticized in a letter to the New York World Telegram which is supporting Dewey as a presidential candidate, according to a dispatch from New York. The letter regrets that the Americans are forced by the authorities to eat the cheapest margarine in order that the Russians can eat butter which they never enjoyed formerly. The letter also regrets that the Americans have to eat less meat because England needs meat, the same England which lets its Indian "slaves" starve.

The letter further complained that restrictions on fuel and coffee in the United States were allegedly made because both were needed by American soldiers. However, the soldiers never did get the coffee and other necessary things while the United States bureaucracy wasted them, it said. Therefore, the letter requested that this evil be remedied, and said that it was necessary to elect a 100 per cent American Government which will not follow the orders of foreign politicians as in the present case of Roosevelt's government.

Indians in Foe Ranks Awaiting Day When Azad Hind Fauj Enters India

Native Troopers, Now Serving as Shield for Cowardly Britishers, Will Flock to National Army Standard When Great Day Comes

By R. HASEGAWA
Of the Army Press Corps

CENTRAL INDO-BURMA FRONTIER, March 18.—It is the lot of Gurkha and Punjabi troops to play the leading role in the tragedy which is being enacted in the Chin Hills area on the central Indo-Burma border which forms a part of the Arakan battlefield.

Thrust by greedy and grasping America and Britain into the foremost front of the line for the defense of India, these Indians, against their will, are fighting the battle of their cruel task-masters.

The sympathy of humanity flows out to those unfortunate Gurkhas and Punjabis who are goaded on by the British and Americans to a fight with the Imperial Japanese Forces in which, as they know, they have not the slightest chance of success.

The noteworthy fact about the British-Indian army which is pitted against the Japanese Forces on the battlefield of Arakan, which is a source of steadily increasing anxiety to the enemies, America and Britain, is that there is a rapidly mounting tendency for the Indian element in the army to come over to the Indian National Army under the leadership of Subhas Chandra Bose which is fighting at the side of the Japanese.

It was a short time ago that the Indians in the British-Indian Army came into the knowledge of the organization of the Indian National Army as well as the existence of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind. And that with difficulty, since the British military authorities in India have been taking great pains to leave the mass of Indian troops in utter ignorance of the existence of these two organizations. The knowledge that their fellow-countrymen, bearing arms, are working from outside India to bring freedom to it has generated in them a sense of their duty, as members of one of the races of East Asia, to East Asia by a return to the way of thinking which has ruled there for ages.

The sentiment which the Indian elements of the British-Indian Army has been rapidly acquiring since they became aware that their fellow-countrymen are carrying the battle into India to set its native inhabitants free from British rule was interpreted and reflected by a Gurkha trooper who, watching his chance, surrendered to the Indian National Army during a fight in the Chin Hills area, when he told the writer of this dispatch that he could confidently say that the Indian troops would leave their ranks to join the

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ARGENTINA CANCELS ALL U.P. FACILITIES

Claims American News Service Had Acted Contrary to Country's Laws

Special

LISBON, March 18.—The Argentine Government has cancelled all facilities for United Press Association, effective today, according to a dispatch from Buenos Aires. The Government justified this step, declaring that the United Press had acted contrary to the country's laws.

Similar action was taken three weeks ago against Pressa Unida, a branch agency of the United Press. Measures against this agency, however, were revoked three days later.

Economic Sanctions Seen

Domei

LISBON, March 17.—The possibility of America and Britain cutting off their economic relations with Argentina was hinted by the New York Herald Tribune in its today's issue, it is reported from New York.

The journal is said to have reported that with the failure of the diplomatic pressure put on Argentina, the United States and Britain were deliberating on economic sanctions to be used against that country.

It also stated that London and Washington were contemplating not only to suspend all trade with Argentina but also to discontinue maritime traffic with her so long as the Farrell Government fails to take a decisive step against the Axis Powers as demanded by America and Britain. The paper added, however, that the Anglo-American consultations have not yet reached a final decision.

U.S. RUBBER CHIEF WORRIED

Says If Workers Are Drafted, Supplies Will Not Meet Needs

Special

LISBON, March 18.—Bradley Dewey, U.S. Rubber Director warned the United States Government today that the rubber industry would be unable to produce enough to supply military and civilian needs if its key workers are drafted, according to a report from Washington. Dewey declared that the rubber industry was now operating on about the shortest possible manpower. The administrator said, in his fifth report since succeeding William Jefferson as head of the agency, that the United States' synthetic rubber industry was now producing more rubber than was consumed annually before the war, but he declared that rubber supplies would continue to be short for the remainder of this year and urged the conservation of tires.

NORTHERN DEFENSE PREPARED BY REICH

Formidable Preparations Made To Check Anti-Axis Attacks On Norway Coast

Special

BERLIN, March 19.—Ever since the occupation of Norway by German forces, the Reich military authorities have been busy fortifying the Norwegian coastline against anti-Axis invasion. Norway, Denmark, the German Baltic Sea coast and the European shores washed by the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, all contitute a defense line thousands of miles long which Germany has fortified against attacks by the Anglo-American forces.

Repeated visits by leading German military leaders to various points on this defense line show the significance attached by the German High Command to an adequate fortification and defense system of the European Continent, to safeguard the protection of all European nations which are fighting side by side with Germany.

The Norwegian coast is desolate and bare. There is nothing but steep rock and shingle. Poor meadows here and there and farms form the only counterpart. Norwegian dwelling houses are usually painted white, while the farmhouses are usually rust-colored and blend well with the grey and greenish tints of the Norwegian landscape.

The first step for any fortification work is the careful selection of locations suitable for the installation of bunkers, gun batteries, dugouts and the like. This being done by the respective German authorities, the men of the "Organization Todt" begin their work.

Though raw products are usually available, military equipment and machinery must be transported from Germany. Barracks for shelter have to be built, ports and landing places enlarged, repaired or constructed. This is of great importance as a smoothly running supply system and close connection with Germany is absolutely essential.

Implements, machines, armor plating and above all, guns, ammunition and food supplies are shipped to Norway, dumped at some landing palce and then brought to the place of destination. It goes without saying, therefore, that land communication, roads, highways, railways, etc. likewise fall under the management and care of the "Organization Todt."

The "Organization Todt" closely collaborates with the coastal artillery of the German navy, army and air force. The German naval artillery usually takes over transportation and erection of batteries and heavy guns. The "Organization

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 7)

GERMANS CONTINUE TO INFLICT LOSSES ON FOE AT CASSINO

Defense Is Solid; Reich Units Retake Hill Position; Luftwaffe Blasts Enemy

Domei

LISBON, March 18.—German defense in the Cassino sector remains as solid as ever with the second anti-Axis offensive in that area, which was started on March 15, now at its climax, according to reports received here.

The Reich forces, today, launched counter-attacks on enemy positions on the hills surrounding Cassino City and recaptured one of them.

In its operations, the Luftwaffe carried out a series of devastating bombing raids on anti-Axis supply routes and inflicted severe losses on concentrations of enemy troops, airplanes and war supplies.

The New Zealand and Indian troops that had entered Cassino City from the east and west are continuing vigorous attacks supported by tanks and trench mortars, while the German forces concentrated in the southwestern part of the city are making fierce counter-attacks, inflicting heavy damage on the foe.

A report from the front said that anti-Axis troops rushed into Cassino Station yesterday. It was also revealed that the Gurkha units that had advanced 100 yards to the top of Mount Cassino were repulsed by powerful German counter-attacks.

Meanwhile, the Germans report that Reich para-troops are being used in the operation in the Cassino sector, and are contributing in no small measure toward the maintenance of the iron defense setup.

A U.P. dispatch from Naples reports that there are no prospects of driving the Germans out of Cassino at an early date.

EMERGENCY MEASURES FOR N. CHINA ANNOUNCED

Japanese Embassy Reveals Plan to Mobilize Students for Industry and Farming

Domei

PEKING, March 18.—The Japanese Embassy authorities in Peking today announced the North China Decisive War Emergency Measures in conformity with the Outline of the Decisive War Emergency Measures adopted by the Cabinet on February 25. The measures are to be retroactive from March 17, and their scope will be enlarged gradually.

The emergency measures include the thorough enforcement of the mobilization of school students for industrial and agricultural services, the strengthening of free labor services to be offered by Japanese residents, the thoroughness of wartime livelihood and improvement of the ration system, the utilization of idle land, the better use of equipment and materials, the strengthening of air raid defenses, and many others.

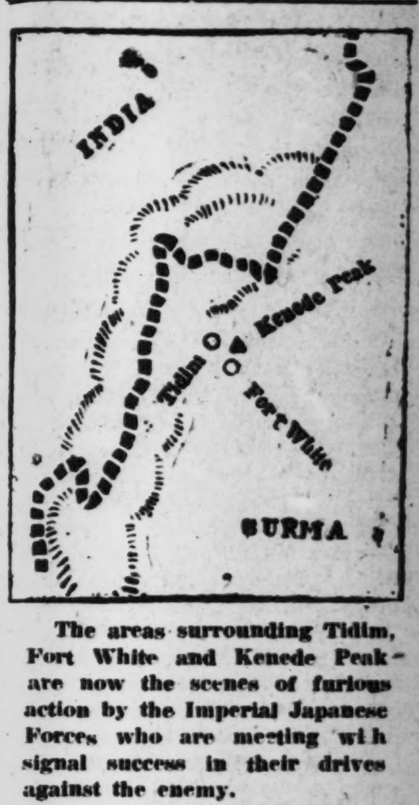
2 U.S. SUBMARINES SUNK

Washington Admits Loss of Undersea Craft in Pacific War Area

Domei

LISBON, March 18.—The United States Navy Department today announced that two American submarines, each of 1,450 tons, were recently lost in the Pacific war area, according to a Washington cable. Details, however, were not revealed.

The Burma Front



The areas surrounding Tidim, Fort White and Kenede Peak are now the scenes of furious action by the Imperial Japanese Forces who are meeting with signal success in their drives against the enemy.

BITTER AIR BATTLES RAGE OVER EUROPE

German Heavy Bombers Pound London — Enemy Raid on Reich Cities Frustrated

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 18.—The anti-Axis Headquarters today announced that a German bomber formation carried out an intensive bombing of London last night causing considerable damage and casualties.

Heavy Raid Foiled

Domei

LISBON, March 18.—Large formations of American Liberator bombers, "Flying Fortresses" and escort fighter planes, numbering about 2,000, raided cities in Southern Germany during daytime today. According to a United Press message from London, the objectives were the airplane plants, airdromes and munition factories in the suburbs of Friedrichshafen, Augsburg, Randsburg and two other cities.

German military authorities said that German fighter units and anti-aircraft corps started action from the time the enemy planes reached the skies of France and, when the raiders appeared over Reich territory, German single-motored and twin-motored planes dashed right into the enemy formations with the result that the enemy's plan to concentrate bombings on their objectives utterly failed. German military authorities declared that the German planes shot down 13 enemy four-motored heavy bombers and three fighters, while the U.P. dispatch from London reported that the anti-Axis air force lost 43 bombers and 10 fighter planes.

Enemy Bombs Hungary

Domei

BERLIN, March 18.—The Hungarian Government announced that an anti-Axis air unit raided the skies of Hungary during the daytime yesterday and dropped bombs, according to a Budapest dispatch.

Vienna Suffers Raid

Domei

LISBON, March 17.—A formation of heavy bombers composed of Flying Fortresses and Liberators, belonging to the 15th air corps of the American army, raided Vienna today, according to an announcement

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KENEDE PEAK TAKEN IN BIG BURMA DRIVE; FALL OF TIDIM NEAR

Japanese Units Drive Out Enemy From Strategic Point—Pursuing Fleeing Foe

By K. MATSUDA and J. ARIMURA
Of the Army Press Corps

UNDISCLOSED BASE ON THE INDO-BURMESE BORDER, March 17.—Kenede Peak, vanguard position of the Anglo-Indian 17th Division's stronghold, Tidim, fell at 4 a.m. today.

Crack Japanese Units which had been closing in one Kenede Peak from the east, south and north in encirclement operations, started their general offensive yesterday evening and the XX Unit carried out a death-defying frontal charge against the enemy position at 4 a.m., putting the enemy to rout.

Closely following the enemy troops fleeing in utter confusion, the Japanese Units are now rushing toward Tidim. With Kenede Peak position which had been obstructing the Japanese advance, already in Japanese hands, the fall of Tidim is seen as imminent.

Smash Enemy Raiders

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN BURMA, March 18.—After shooting down six of the 16 North American P-51's that attacked XX base on March 8, in spectacular air duels, Lieutenant Takagi and Corporal Watanabe self-blasted themselves, the former crashing his plane against one of the hostile raiders.

Intercepting two enemy Spitfires which appeared over Maymyo, Northern Burma, in the morning, Lieutenant Takagi shot down one and inflicted heavy damage to the other.

Japanese fighter planes had started out on an air raid against XX in the morning the same day and, at the base, only Lieutenant Takagi and Corporal Watanabe remained. They were charged with the duty of protecting about 10 Shoki fighters from enemy attacks.

At 4:30 p.m., the sound of enemy planes was heard at the base. The two airmen lost no time in taking off from the airfield to repel the attackers. They dashed into the midst of the enemy formation and in no time had shot down six of the hostile raiders but by then they had exhausted their supply of ammunition.

The two Japanese airmen were then encircled by three enemy planes and Corporal Watanabe's machine was shot down. Lieutenant Takagi, realizing that the supreme moment had arrived, resolutely dashed his plane against one of the P-51's thereby avenging the death of Corporal Watanabe.

ANTI-FINNISH ATTITUDE OF SWEDE PRESS SEEN

Berlin Comments on Unanimous Effort to Make Finns Accept Soviet Demands

Special

LISBON, March 18.—Almost complete bringing into line of the Swedish press through the war of nerves conducted by the newspapers of Great Britain and the United States against Finland is regarded by German political quarters as very remarkable, according to a Berlin dispatch.

With few exceptions, the attitude of the Swedish press is in strange contrast to that of the press of other neutral States. Swedish papers are trying to induce Finns to accept the Soviet's demands without regard to consequences in store for Finland.

With regard to Sweden's attitude, political circles here point to the social democratic organ "Morgen Tidningen" which demanded that Swedish relief measures be discontinued for Finland unless Helsinki comes to terms with Soviet Russia. Berlin political quarters do not consider it impossible that the participation of Swedish papers in the war of nerves is equal to a "hint from high quarters." They arrived at this conclusion in view of the fact that the request of Swedish papers to Finland to withdraw from the war was printed by all the papers, almost without exception, in the same wording.

Anti-Axis Disregard of Neutral Rights Hit As Planes Again Violate Swiss Territory

Special

BERNE, March 18.—Commenting on the latest violation of Swiss territory by anti-Axis planes, the Basler Nationalzeitung, on Saturday, observed that the "great flight of deathbirds on Thursday night over Switzerland was manifestly carried out according to plans. This cannot easily be reconciled," it said, "with the solemn obligations undertaken by the Anglo-Saxon governments regarding Swiss neutrality."

The paper expressed satisfaction that the Federal Council had protested strongly against these violations of neutrality and added: "Military weapons are instruments of belligerent governments and they are, in the last resort, responsible for orders carried out by individual pilots. If one power disregards neutral rights, this affords its adversary a pretext for doing the same thing."

The paper concluded by asking how it was possible to believe in the oft-repeated war aims announced by the anti-Axis—namely, establishment of freer and happier world—when they carried on the war with such brutal disregard for neutral rights.

Swiss Protest Violation

Special

ZURICH, March 17.—The Swiss Government officially announced today that it has instructed its legation in London to lodge a strong protest against the violation of Swiss air sovereignty by British planes last night.

ATTITUDE OF FINNS UPSETS U.S. PLANS

American Diplomacy Suffers Another Defeat in Finnish Rejection of Soviet Terms

By Our Political Commentator

The House of Representatives of Finland held a session in camera on March 14 and 15 and decided to reject the final proposal of the Soviet Union for a truce agreement and the Finnish Office of Information issued a communique announcing the decision on the night of March 15.

The Soviet-Finnish peace negotiations, upon which the world focussed so much attention, have consequently broken down.

These negotiations had been opened upon the recommendation of the United States to Finland. The motive of the United States in making such a recommendation was to recoup her lost fortune in the diplomatic field in view of her failures in the strategic field. The anti-Axis forces had not been able to secure any tangible results on the world front. Both in the East Asian and South Italian theaters of war their counter-offensives have proved abortive and the struggle has become much more difficult than they had bargained for, the Second Front being urgently demanded by the Soviet Union has turned into a "drama not destined to see the footlights." Exasperated by the fact that the Soviet Union was fast losing faith in her and Britain, the United States has undoubtedly launched a new diplomatic war in Europe in order to facilitate her dealings with the Soviet Union. That this is a war of purely intrigue is best known to the people of Finland.

U.S. Urges Acceptance

The United States pointed out to Finland that the terms offered by the Soviet Union were most generous and recommended acceptance rather than suffer the frightful ravages of war. However it was patent to the Finnish people how devoid of sincerity or good faith and how unrealistic this American recommendation was, for the armed might of Germany and the lesson of the Badoglio traitor regime had not been lost upon the intelligent Finns. The Finnish Government was not so lacking in perspicacity as to be unable to imagine what the fate of the 4,000,000 people of Finland would be if it accepted the Soviet terms and the Red Army occupied the strategic points within the country.

In the two wars which the Finns had already fought against the Soviets, the people of Finland fully realized what her future course must be. The United States must be said to have been excessively naive in supposing that she could coerce a high-spirited and gallant people who had persevered through years of hardship in order to safeguard their sovereignty and rights and interests. Moreover, the Finnish people could well discern that neither the United States nor Britain had the strength necessary to make the Soviet terms more generous.

Thus the American diplomatic machinations in connection with the Finnish issue have ended in an utter fiasco. Her diplomacy of high-handed oppression has not only been frustrated in the cases of Argentina, Spain, Turkey, Eire, Rumania, Palestine and Egypt by their resolute reprisals but it has met a most miserable defeat in the case of Finland.

Intimidation Fails

Having lost her self-confidence in her ability to overthrow the Axis, the United States is now devoting much energy to diplomatic intrigue. For her field of activity she has selected the smaller nations whom she deems politically most vulnerable and has made furious and desperate efforts to coerce them to do her bidding. These efforts, however, have merely had the effect of rousing the resentment and enmity of those nations and she is as far from her goal in the diplomatic field as in her military campaign.

The United States had placed the greatest expectations in the Finnish issue as one whose outcome was bound to have a profound effect on the nations in alliance with the Axis. In her rather premature confidence that Finland was bound to acquiesce and drop out of the Axis camp, she had circulated much propaganda to that effect in the Balkans. She was convinced that the attitude of Finland constituted the key to both the strategic and political situations in Europe and thus she lost no opportunity to advertise but now she has been informed in plain terms that the key was not to be hers.

As soon as the Finnish attitude became clear, the United States State Department revealed its disappointment and said: "The Finnish stand will have a strong influence in other countries, such as Rumania and Bulgaria, and the neutral countries, such as Spain and Turkey." Thus she has prophesied the total frustration of her own plans, yet the United States is persisting in her domineering policy toward Finland. President Roosevelt issued a statement again urging Finland's secession from the Axis front and it is reported that Washington is seriously considering the severance of relations with Finland. Such crude methods of intimidation and coercion will only engender general revulsion and result in morally isolating the United States from the rest of the world.

From a Front-Line Base

Officers Describe Experiences in N. Burma

By R. HASHIMOTO
Of the Army Press Corps

Domei

SOMEWHERE ON THE INDO-BURMESE FRONT, March 18.—An interesting glimpse into the actual war situation and conditions along the Indo-Burmese border where the Japanese Forces, from the snow-capped peaks in the North to the epidemic-infested jungles of the South, are now daily engaged in effectively forestalling enemy maneuvers, was obtained recently at a round-table conference attended by the younger officers and non-coms of the Imperial Army Forces who are actively engaged in the area.

Participating in the talks, held under the auspices of Domei, Lieutenant Shimizu, Lieutenant Fukagata, Intendant Sergeant Aoki, Sergeant Ikejiri, Surgeon-Lieutenant Watanabe, Lieutenant Kosuge, Sergeant-Major Kaneo and Sergeant Tsutsui who are stationed in the Fukawng area and others now fighting in the Arakan sector including Lieutenant Katsuyama, Lieutenant Kadoriku, Sergeant Mori and Lance-Corporal Takagi. Also present were Sub-Lieutenant Fukama, Sub-Lieutenant Hasegawa and Lance-Corporal Cho from the Kaolikwan mountain area in Northern Burma.

Poisonous Leeches, Fleas

Lieutenant Shimizu: Daily, in the Fukawng sector, we are battling Chungking forces who have been trained by American officers. Along the Thanai River a wide basin spreads, hemmed to the north by dense jungles. The topography is marked by endless ravines made impassable by mud and dense growths, where swarm poisonous leeches and fleas. The bites of the latter bring on a high fever.

Sergeant Ikejiri: In the Nagyawnggyaung area, the terrain is so dangerous that we utilize elephants. However, since these huge beasts are easily stampeded by the roar of plane engines, it is not a very safe means of locomotion.

Lieutenant Fukagata: The area is so heavily wooded that we often bump into enemy units unexpectedly. The foe often resorts to detour strategy to avoid these sudden encounters, but always suffers at our hands in the end. Each Chungking company is commanded by two or three American officers who drive their men at the point of the gun. The deep animosity of these troops toward the Americans was revealed by a certain Chungking officer taken prisoner, who said that after the war, he would turn the spearhead of attack toward the Anglo-American oppressors.

Sergeant Aoki: I'll tell you an amusing episode. Three enemy fighter planes, which had slipped into the area, crashed into the jungles due to an accident. The Chungking troopers, who saw the planes fall, took it for granted that numerous Japanese Forces were in the neighborhood and concentrated their machine-gun fire on the locality for several days. However, the fact was that we had left the area some time before. What a waste of bullets!

Ground Becomes Frozen

Lieutenants Watanabe and Kosuge: Our position, built on a mountain summit, is X X meters, above sea level. At our feet spreads an endless expanse of jungles through which narrow paths zigzag. From the end of November, it becomes very cold and the ground usually becomes frozen.

Sergeant-Major Kaneko: Despite the fact that our position is located deep in the mountains, the enemy planes tenaciously appear every day to carry out a futile machine-gun attack. In a frantic effort to check our advance, the enemy have surrounded themselves with barbed-wire entanglements and innumerable land-mines, while hand-grenades dangle from near-by trees.

The talks next turned to the furious campaign now raging in the Mayu Range.

Lieutenant Katsuyama: Mayu Range, the present scene of annihilative battles, averages only from 1,000 to 2,000 meters in height, but the entire area is so densely covered with jungles and the topography so steep and rugged that great difficulties are encountered. The areas along the Mayu and Arakan rivers are cobwebbed with creeks. We often hear the sounds of hammers mingled with the harsh voices of the enemy scolding the native laborers who have been requisitioned without their consent. Death is the usual fate of these workers if they should attempt to escape.

Lieutenant Kadoriku: We are all amazed by the courage and fighting spirit shown by the Indian National Army units which are now marching shoulder-to-shoulder with the Japanese Forces. Once, when we occupied the enemy trenches on a certain height, we found many corpses of Indian Sepoys and others on the verge of death. In the middle of the night, I heard one of them shouting in delirium, "To Delhi . . . to Delhi from Calcutta"

British Shoot Sepoy

Sergeant Mori: On another occasion, we witnessed an Indian Sepoy being shot to death by the British. His tear-stained face, as he faced death, vividly attested to the pitiful plight of the Indian troops now under the iron fist of the enemy.

Lance Corporal Takagi: A certain soldier who recently joined the Indian National Army told me that he had served in the British army for 17 consecutive years. He said that the British paid him only 75 rupees a month.

Sergeant Mori: In December last year, we captured four British soldiers in a hand-to-hand combat. We found the enemy camp in utter disorder with empty whisky bottles scattered here and there and the enemy soldiers clinging to barbed-wire entanglements and crying aloud like babies.

The actual war situation in the Kaolikwan Mountain Range was next revealed.

Sub-Lieutenant Hasegawa: Deep in the mountains, the temperature falls as low as two or three degrees below zero. Deluded by propaganda that Japan lies just beyond the mountains, the ignorant Indian Sepoys have been led as far as this sector only to be captured by the Japanese. Burma is known as a tropical country, but we often have snowstorms in the area in which we are fighting.

Sub-Lieutenant Fukama: Chungking troops entrenched in the Yunnan area are now using grenade-throwers made in America. Through our telescopes we see them frantically constructing trenches in anticipation of our drive against Kunming.

As to the fighting morale of the officers and men of the Imperial Japanese Forces on the Indo-Burmese front, all the participants at the round-table conference unanimously declared that they were determined to fight to the last, to offer their lives for the success of their campaign.

New Anglo-U.S. Talk Now in Preparation As Unity Is Menaced

(Continued From Page 1)

gan, Daily Herald, remarked in a leading article on Saturday that the House would commit a serious error if it renounced its right to discuss this question, according to a report from London.

Churchill's statement that the application of the Atlantic Charter could be restricted to certain nations had aroused widespread uneasiness, especially among persons who were thinking of a real durable peace at heart. The paper thus expressed its opinion that if forcible transfer of territory is justified in the case of Poland, then the door would be opened for future wars.

Lack of Agreement Noted

Special

LISBON, March 18.—Establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the Badoglio Government is interpreted by a Turkish member of the Parliament, Yaltchin, in the newspaper Tanin as indication that the Soviet Union is not satisfied with the Anglo-Americans, therefore, it is acting as it pleases. The importance of this step must not be overlooked, Yaltchin said, because it was not so much the establishment of diplomatic relations that mattered as the lack of agreement among the anti-Axis nations. He also said that Kremlin was apparently not expecting any protest by the United States and Britain on its recognition of the Badoglio Government.

Turko-Syrian Border Closed

14

Special

LISBON, March 14.—The Turkish-Syrian border has been closed to civilians for ten days, it is reported from Istanbul. British authorities refuse to grant visas for visiting Turkey on the ground that military maneuvers now taking place in the Near East on land and in the air have not yet been terminated.

RITES SOLEMNIZED FOR KONRON CREW

Captain Kubota, Who Went Down With His Ship, Honored in Ceremony

An impressive memorial service for the late Captain Noboru Kubota, commander of the Shimonoseki-Fusan channel service ship Konron Maru, and members of its crew, all of whom shared the fate of the ship near a certain spot on an undisclosed date last year was solemnized at Shimonoseki Sunday under the sponsorship of the military and Government authorities.

Captain Kubota who went down with his ship together with the rest of the crew has been posthumously decorated with the Fifth Class Order of Merit and vested with the Junior Grade of the Fifth Court Rank in recognition of his distinguished services. Moreover, he had his Court Rank raised one grade to the Senior Grade of the Fifth Rank. To add to his honors, the Transportation and Communications Ministry has raised his Government service grade by two ranks to the Third Grade of the Civil Service.

He was 54 years old when he died. Upon graduation from the Oshima Mercantile Marine School, Captain Kubota joined the Railway Ministry and had been engaged in the Fusan-Shimonoseki ferry service for the consecutive 30 years. He was appointed captain of the ship in April last year, when the ill-fated vessel was assigned to that service.

When the Konron Maru was attacked by an enemy submarine, Captain Kubota lost no time in ordering his men to take up their respective posts, but the incident took place in utter darkness and in a strong wind. The sinking was rapid and Captain Kubota, perfectly composed, ordered his men to do their utmost in saving the passengers and after respectfully bowing toward the east went down with his ship.

Indians in Enemy Camp Await Azad Hind Army

(Continued From Page 1)

Indian National Army in increased numbers as soon as the army crossed into India.

The Gurkha's statement which was made in extreme indignation follows:

"I was pressed into the service of the army four years ago. I desired to join my wife and only child who were waiting for me in the recess of a hilly district of Nepal. When I realized that my desire was not to be realized for very long I decided to become a professional soldier. I remained a private a long time before I was promoted to the rank of Sergeant-Major. I was paid 30 rupees a month. That was not enough to support me in days when prices had risen to a level not known before. There was no making a remittance home to my family. A Briton in my rank was paid five times as much for no reason other than that he was a Briton, and had a liberal allowance of milk, butter, bacon, and eggs. Indeed, he lived grandly. I need not say that on no occasion did I get any of these good things.

"The British are saying that the Japanese Forces can have no hope of advancing into India. This is but an example of the things they are saying about Japan. They speak nothing favorable of Japan. When it comes to fighting they are the first to be frightened and they press the Indians to fight, they themselves, staying at the rear where they are safe. They are a despicable lot of men, lost completely to the sense of shame.

"One day, while I was in the British-Indian Army, a prize of 1,400 rupees with a holiday of a month was offered by the British military authorities to any who captured a Japanese soldier alive. None of us were interested, as we were convinced that no Japanese trooper would fall into the hands of the enemy.

"It was toward the close of last year that I learned for the first time the creation of the Indian National Army, and it was through hand-bills dropped by Japanese airmen. Nothing was ever said by British troops that had the remotest connection with that army.

"The one theme of conversation among us Indian troops was the Indian National Army after we learned of its existence. In those days we knew nothing of the organization of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind.

"The Indians in the British-Indian Army are eagerly waiting for the day when the Indian Natinal Army is inside India. Then, there will be a sudden rise in the number of Indian troops joining the Indian National Army. I have no doubt on the point. I am in the faith that there is no way for the Indian people to save their country except by joining the Indian National Army."

Chiang Organ Warns U.S. Troops To Drop Contemptuous Attitude

Domei

CANTON, March 18.—Ascribing the endless friction between the Chungking forces and the United States troops stationed in China to the American soldiers' contempt for the Chinese, the Ta Kung Pao, Chungking's official organ, scathingly declared in its March 16 issue that unless and until the Americans rectify their attitude, very grave problems would arise between the two countries, according to a Chungking broadcast.

"It is a matter for serious regret that deplorable clashes frequently occur between the Chungking soldiers and the American forces stationed in China," laments the Ta Kung Pao.

"We would like to see the two parties cooperate wholeheartedly but, unfortunately, a wide gap exists between them," the paper added.

Attributing this regrettable state of affairs to the fact that the American soldiers are treated far better than the Chungking troops, the Ta Kung Pao, however, points out that it is impossible to raise the standard of treatment for Chungking soldiers to that accorded the Americans. The paper contends that the situation is being aggravated further by the jealousy entertained by the Chinese troopers against the Yankees.

"Moreover," the Chungking organ continues, "the difference of language and manners and customs provides another cause of the friction between the two parties.

"What the Chungking forces want to point out is that the Americans' attitude is characterized by a sense of contempt for the Chinese. Needless to say, it is of prime importance to maintain friendly relations not only between the armed forces of Chungking and the United States but also between the peoples at large. Nevertheless, understanding is lacking in the relationship between the two nations and this fact presages the occurrence of a grave situation."

Chungking On Brink Of Total Collapse

(Continued From Page 1)

the authorities of Chungking are fully aware of this, they cannot stop these officers from such disgraceful means of supplementing their salaries, for with the Treasury so low, it is impossible to pay them enough to support their families.

People's Homes Looted

As for the officers residing in Chungking and in the immediate neighborhood, who cannot supplement their salaries by such means without falling into the clutches of the law, they receive an allowance more than two times as large as that paid to their fellow officers in the provinces.

Maneuvers outside Chungking which take place from time to time are a welcome opportunity for the officers and men to loot on a large scale. It is a common sight to see an entire army loot the inhabitants of one area, dispose of their booty to the people in an adjoining province, and return to their barracks with their illegally acquired wealth.

Nothing illustrates better the lack of discipline displayed by the soldiers in and around Chungking than the series of laws which have been effected by the Chungking regime recently.

According to the Ta Kung Pao, organ of the Chungking regime, there are 1,460 foreigners now residing in Chungking, of whom 1,104 are males and 356 females. There are 480 Americans—412 men and 68 women. The British number 330 of whom 262 are men and 68 women. There are 27 nationalities represented in the foreign population of Chungking. The British, American, and Soviets are most dominant in this group. In such a foreign community where the men outnumber the women acts injurious to public morality are of daily occurrence. Herein lies another great source of anxiety for the Chungking authorities.

Bitter Air Battles Rage Over Europe

(Continued From Page 1)

by the headquarters of the anti-Axis forces in the Mediterranean area.

35 Liberators Lost

16

ZURICH, March 17. By Arrangement with the Asahi—A London dispatch states that formations of Liberator planes on March 16 bombed the industrial zones of Augsburg and Friedrichshafen in South Germany, during which raid 22 bombers and 13 fighter planes were lost.

Foe Loses 467 Planes

17

ZURICH, March 17. By Arrangement with the Asahi—The British Air Ministry announces that the anti-Axis aircraft losses during the month of February in the bombing operations over Germany and Western Europe included 204 British and 263 American planes.

Let Reich Win, States Malan in South Africa; Red Menace Is Feared

Domei

AMSTERDAM, March 19.—Dr. Malan, leader of the opposition in South Africa, declared recently before the Parliament that "If an anti-Axis victory means an alliance with Communism and its spread throughout the world, and if a German victory means the smashing of Communism, I say, let Germany win," according to a British news service report from Capetown.

Northern Defense Prepared by Reich

(Continued From Page 1)

Todt" is responsible for the construction of bunkers, emplacements of guns of the greatest variety, installation of azimuth instruments, construction of dugouts with observation posts, roads and water-supply systems.

All this shows the importance of the "Organization Todt" with regard to fortification work. It goes without saying that the construction of a modern stronghold deep into rock is no small matter. The necessary blasting operations, the tearing up and undermining of the rock require expert handling of various kinds of explosive and a great deal of experience. Blasting operations are often necessary for the construction of water tanks, tunnels and roads.

When the work is done, when an invisible fort protects the Fjord against enemy attacks, then the "Organization Todt" can proudly look upon another link in the long defense line, another Gibraltar in the North which together with innumerable others on islands, at the coast and in the hinterland form the protection of continental Europe.

P.I. STUDENTS ATTEND TEA PARTY AT EMBASSY

Ambassador Vargas Urges Youths to Cultivate Oriental Spirit, Discard Western Ideas

An informal tea party for the Filipino students studying in Japan was held at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Philippine Embassy at Fujimicho, Kojimachi-ku, which was opened on March 16.

The function was attended by Philippine Ambassador Jorge B. Vargas, staff members of the Embassy and Filipino students staying here, about 40 in all.

In his address to the gathering, Ambassador Vargas emphasized that the Filipinos should endeavor to cultivate Oriental spiritualism discarding all Western way of thinking and manners which have influenced the Filipino people during the 400 years of alien rule in the past.

Pointing out that the world is watching the progress of the Philippine Republic after its emergence as an independent nation, Ambassador Vargas advised the youthful students to make the most of the rare opportunities of studying in the heart of Japan so that they may not fall short of their fellow-countrymen's expectations.

After some musical pieces were rendered by the students, the meeting was brought to a close at 5 p.m.

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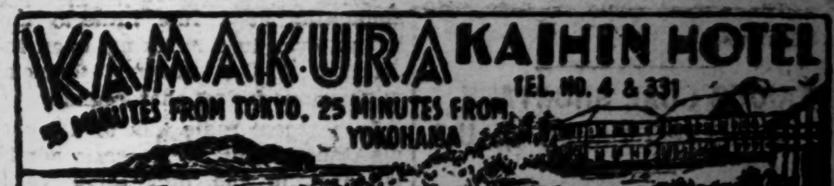

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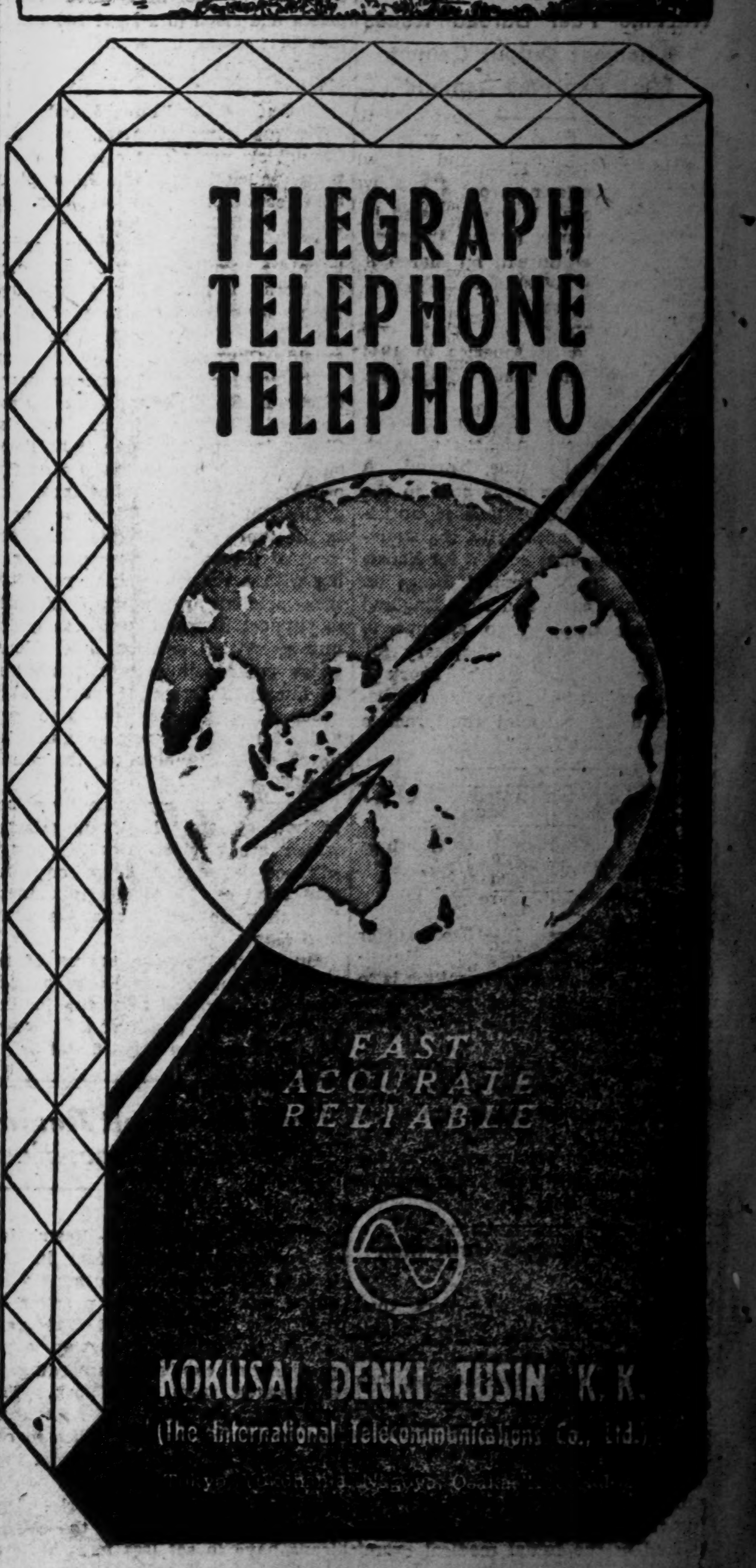

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THE NAVY

By

TOYOO IWATA

(Translated by Kumiko Takagi)

(Continued From Last Week)

Masato knew his way to the College, because once before he had been there with Major Kikuchi. But when he was at Shimonoseki, waiting for the next train, he could not but think of those words Eda had said.

"What a bold and stout-hearted girl she is! I have never seen such a girl like her. She seems to hate me...."

Masato could not understand why she should hate him. As for Masato, he had never harbored any ill-feeling toward her. He judged that she was an interesting girl after all and couldn't but smile.

It was dawn when Masato arrived at Kure: he ate breakfast in the waiting-room. He then walked along the road to the Quay Kawaraishi which he remembered so well, and he forgot about Eda. He ferried to Etajima by the first boat. The color of the Seto Inland Sea was a beautiful blue. He happened to recognize several of his future-comrades on board with their bags or "Furoshiki," gazing at the warships. Arriving at Koyo, a bus was waiting, but Masato as he had done before, went there on foot. It was a fine road. The peak of a mountain which was just a miniature of Mt. Takachihonomine in Kyushu, was on the right side of the road. It was the famous Mt. Furutaka. The peach-blossoms and the late camellias could be seen here and there.

Suddenly he felt uneasy and shuddered. He was not yet "a cadet." He still had to go through the medical examination once more. Here he was told that some were turned away. He could not but sigh upon reflecting on how particular the College was in taking students. He prayed that Heaven may not betray him. There is no College in the world equalling this one—passing through a sieve again and again. It was just like the business at Masato's own house: Masato could not but recollect his mother and his deceased father always passing rice-grains through the sieves from the loose winnow to the finer one. The remainders in the last winnow would be the strong youths of Etajima, whom the Imperial Navy wanted. Thinking thus, Masato felt his enthusiasm for the Navy increasing.

The houses could be seen before him: there were especially many laundry-houses and studios, but no restaurant. Masato's stride became faster. Entering through the low gate, and notifying the gate-keeper of his arrival. Masato was shown his lodging where he was to stay until he entered the College. The lodging was only a large farmhouse.

This farm-house, however, was not like the thatched hovels in the country of Satsuma. It was of a large constuction and newly matted and even the toilet was clean. As it was designated as the lodging for the prospective students it was well equipped. One after another many fellow-candidates came in after Masato. With every arrival of the ferry boat, the number of youths in the lodging increased. Some of them were accompanied by their mothers or brothers. Masato was very glad when Kumazawa, one of the members of the "Gunjingumi," Preparatory Class, came in at last.

The boys of the whole group were almost of the same age. They began to greet one another. Masato knew that his home dialect would not be understood by anybody, so he started to use the standard language. But there were some fellow-students who spoke a more difficult language; they were from the northeastern part of Japan. As for them they could not understand Masato's words at all. The language spoken by the fellow-students from Tokyo could be most easily understood and passed current with everybody. Most of the fellow-students were from Tokyo. Masato had despised the youth of Tokyo for they were very effeminate, but. . .

"The brightest and most talented boys are now here; I must be more serious and tense. . ."

Now he recalled his mother's words when he departed.

Meanwhile, the youths could not spend their time idling at the lodgings; a leader—an instructor appeared often and asked questions or set problems and tasks, therefore nobody could be off guard or inattentive.

"Masato Tani!"

The instructor called his name. He answered, wondering why the instructor knew his name in spite of his never seeing him before.

"Here, Mr.—Instructor!"

"In the Navy we omit Mr. or Sir—even to a superior official."

Masato blushed.

"State the motives of your wanting to join the Navy."

Masato told the truth and the bare fact frankly and earnestly.

"Good! Next Saburo Nakamura!"

The instructor remembered well the names of the prospective students indeed. Masato learned later that the instructors located each member of the groups through photographs or "memorandum about the students," sent from their Alma Maters.

On the 28th the medical examination was held at the infirmary in the College. If sent to the "Rontgen" room, it would be just one step before "All would be over with him." However, Masato passed safe and sound. Saburo Nakamura from Tokyo, after three days' inspection, was disqualified. He was handed a double travel expense and went out of the College gate with a heavy heart. It was indeed unbearable to see his crestfallen figure. The naval surgeon who was to make the decision, passed the sentence in a tearful voice, looking aside. This year, however, luckily Saburo Nakamura was the only one to be disqualified.

April 1st was a fine day. The entrants gathered in front of the gate at 7 a.m. and were assigned their "Buntai," divisions. Both Masato and Kumazawa belonged to the 16th division.

Buntai-kanji, the housemaster or the inspector of the division, was Lieutenant-Commander S. who was of a calm nature and with no moustache. He led the entrants to the bath-room and there he joked:

"Well, wash off the worldly dirt"

Masato could not understand the word "worldly."

After taking bath, he, for the first time, put on the naval uniform. How long-cherished a desire it was for Takao to wear the naval jacket, short and smartly cut at the waist. Thus thinking of Takao, Masato felt very sad. Masato, after putting on his uniform, accidently found something extraordinary with the trousers and he said to Kumazawa:

"The trousers have no pocket."

The uniform of the middle school had pockets, but he could not find any of these now; he did not realize these pockets were purposely not put there, so the cadets would not walk around, with hands in their pockets.

"Unless you lay off your dialect, you may be laughed at."

Kumazawa was worrying about Masato's language rather than about the pockets.

Then the entrants were ushered in "Seitokan," the grand cadet building. In it there was a Buntai-study room which belonged to his "Buntai" division and there were many desks neatly arranged in the individual study room, unlike the ordinary dormitory. A fine wooden box was put on the front, central wall in which was respectfully kept the Buntai-meibo, "scrolls of the divisions."

They were then led to their bedrooms on the third floor. Clean white blankets and beds neatly made up were all lined in a row, and there were blue stripes on each blanket, but no freshmen knew what that meant. Beside each bed there was a strongly built case, and on opening it, each freshman was happy to find a dirk. Masato, before he put it around his waist, secretly unseathed it halfway. It was not a toy at all—the glitter of the trenchant sword struck his eyes. When he was told that the iron case was called "Chest," it amused him as he remembered the word "Ches" of the Satsuma dialect.

Presently they took their lunches in the dining-hall: it was rice-curry, which was much more palatable than that served in a restaurant at Kagoshima. He was astonished at the "spaciousness" of the Hall and the good manners of the seniors.

The matriculation ceremony was performed from 1 p.m. A representative of the freshmen, gathering each one's "Pledge," offered it to the President. The President was a Vice-Admiral. He wore spectacles and looked full of affection and benevolence. He read reverently the "Imperial Rescript Issued to the Army and Navy," following which they all bowed before the Imperial portrait. Masato felt a solemnity which he could never explain in words, and then for the first time he keenly felt that he became a "Cadet" of the Naval College. Strictly speaking, however, the cadets of the Naval College were not mere cadets; they were, in a sense, already enlisted in the Imperial Japanese Navy. Therefore they were all treated as junior officials (Officials of Han-nin rank). We may well say that the life of Masato Tani was here given to His Imperial Majesty the Emperor. He is no longer an individual but a member of the Imperial Navy.

In this College the way of naming classes is different. The fourth year cadets or seniors, were called Cadets No. 1, while the first year cadets, Cadets No. 4. Those of No. 4 had no one to give orders to. But there were many from whom to receive orders—from the instructors to the upper-class cadets. However, in the College they seldom used the words "to order or to be ordered" and instead they used the words "to discipline or to improve." To think thus the person whom Cadet No. 4 was trying to discipline was no one but himself.

At any rate Masato Tani was now experiencing the period as a Cadet No. 4 of the 67th Class of the Naval College. Though the "number" thus lessened by one each year during the cadet's life at the College, the number of the 67th class stuck with him throughout his life. Indeed throughout their lives, the intercourse of the graduates of the same class was kept in continuation with intimacy and sincerity. If one of the graduates of the same class died, the graduating class of the Naval College not only took care of the funeral services but also planned for the future of his family. In the case of marriage or debt he would consult with some members of the same class. This should be compared with the "love" of one's flesh and blood, rather than with the tranquil and calm friendship of gentlemen. The cause of the birth of the second blood-relationship was said to exist in the period of the Cadet No. 4 when they helped and encouraged each other in the face of many difficulties "to be disciplined."

It was natural that the new cadets elatedly came to the College as they had passed such a narrow and difficult gate, but within a few days they became utterly depressed, because here was a quite different world. Of course they had been told many times before, that the College was a very pure, clean and orderly place. However, upon entering just one step he was lost in a literally different world indeed in which he knew not which was east or west. The attitude toward life yesterday could never be used today. Manners, ways of speaking, walking, eating and sleeping—all were different from those of yesterday. A distinct line was drawn between the so-called "world" and "this world." Though vaguely Masato could understand now the meaning of the teacher's saying "Wash off the worldly dirt." Thus realizing, he began to respect the upper-class cadets as a sort of supermen, who were well accustomed to this different life.

On entering, each entrant was obliged to introduce himself to the others in the individual study-room of the Buntai "Division." This was one of the different ways.

"I'm Mr. Masato Tani from the Second Middle School of Kagoshima."

Masato tried very hard to use the standard language, but the "Gocho," cadet-captain of the division did not tolerate him.

"What's 'I am Mr. Masato Tani?' The naval student must not use such words. Say just 'I am Masato Tani!'"

The excellent cadet No. 1 was always appointed the cadet-captain of the Division. The Division was composed of the cadets from No. 4 to No. 1, and here was a special significance. As this system was similar to the boys' fraternity "Kenjinoshya" at Kagoshima, Masato could understand its significance sooner than the other boys.

GOEBBELS SMASHES ENEMY WAR HOPES

Says Foe's Futile Propaganda Cannot Shake Germans' Faith in Victory

Special

BERLIN, March 18.—Reiterating Germany's firm conviction in victory, Dr. Joseph Goebbels, Reich Propaganda Minister, declared that the Germans who have overcome all difficulties in the war thus far cannot be beaten.

Dr. Goebbel's statement was made in his latest contribution in the weekly magazine, Das Reich, in which he particularly dealt with the futile Anglo-American propaganda tactics.

He said that in the Western enemy States there are people without judgment who are waiting to see Germany one day announce unconditional surrender but, he asserted, "Judging from the trend of the war, such a situation will never materialize."

Continuing, Dr. Goebbels declared that the whole world must agree that the Germans thus far have gone through this war with flying colors, and that those who have again and again overcome all obstacles can never be defeated.

The Reich Propaganda Minister then referred to the Anglo-American propaganda tactics. He said: "The German people are too well informed about the war to be fooled by our enemies. Mountains in this world may be shaken rather than the German people's firm faith in their historical mission."

"We do not know when this war will end, but we know what the outcome will be, and it is not so important where we are fighting, but that we are fighting," he added.

Expressing conviction that National Socialism will fight its way through without regard to difficulties, Dr. Goebbels stressed that the war would end in Germany's victory.

"Never before have we believed so firmly in victory as in those weeks and months when our faith has had to stand severe tests. It may be that we have not yet arrived at the end of our privations, but we shall overcome all of them," he stated.

The Past Week in Review

THE WAR

INDO-CHINA FRONT

Chin Plateau Taken

The complete occupation of the Chin Plateau has placed the Japanese in a most advantageous position, the heights commanding the mountains running from south to north as well as southern Chittagong. The main force of the British in the Chin area, routed by the Japanese, has begun fleeing in disorder over the same road over which two years ago the British fled with nothing but the clothes on their backs.

To the enemy's Fourth Division in southern Chittagong, the Japanese on the Chin heights are constituting a silent threat in concert with the activities of the XX Unit advancing through the upper reaches of the Kaladan River.

The doom of the Anglo-Indian 17th and West African 81st Divisions is inexorably nearing in the campaign launched by the Japanese in the Burma area from the Fukawng area to the north, the Chin area on the central Indo-Burmese border, the Mayu Mountains and Kaladan to the northeast. Against them, the Japanese are developing lightning forestalling operations and are steadily securing positions of advantage.

Chittagong Port Full

The port of Chittagong is said to be full with a group of vessels of X hundred thousand tons.

Since reports regarding the advance of the Indian National Army started reaching there, great concern and anxiety on the part of the British authorities in Chittagong have daily been mounting.

How to defend Chittagong is now a big problem of the enemy, particularly in the event that XX Unit once launches an advance on the broad level automobile highway from Rangoon toward Chittagong and the Indian National Army in the Kaladan sector strikes Bandarban and Dobazari along the Sangu River by way of Paletwa, Kaladan, Kalewa and Modauku.

Fighting Intensified

A furious battle between Japanese and anti-Axis forces is raging in the northern Buthidaung sector in the Indo-Burma border area. It is reported that Lieutenant-General Joseph Stilwell's headquarters on March 15 admitted that casualties were suffered by the anti-Axis troops when the Japanese Forces carried out fierce counter-attacks in the Fort Hertz area northeast of the Fukawng Valley. He also admitted that the Japanese made three attacks on the anti-Axis positions at Penssau.

Commenting on the British campaign to recapture Burma, Cyril Falls, noted British military commentator, has admitted in a late issue of the Illustrated London News that the British operations have ended in a complete failure.

The smashing defeats suffered by the British-Indian forces in the Indo-Burma border area have thrown the internal situation in India into a state of greater confusion. On the other hand, Chungking has been definitely stripped of its hopes for the recapture of Burma.

SOUTH PACIFIC FRONT

Fierce aerial battles continue to take place daily as wave after wave of attacking enemy planes are repulsed by the staunch Japanese Forces stationed in the south.

In a communique issued by the Imperial Headquarters at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 11, the war situation on New Guinea Island was reported as follows:

"(A) Imperial Japanese Units which had been massed in the sector northwest of Kalasa from the vicinity of Finschhafen at the end of last year completed their concentration in the vicinity of Madang in the early part of March vital points south of Cape Gumbi without receiving any chase of the enemy. They are now adjusting their positions.

"(B) Our Units in the vicinity of Cape Gumbi and in the sector south of Madang frustrated the assaults of a powerful enemy and accomplished their task of accommodating our withdrawal units while they are inflicting heavy damage on the enemy.

"(C) The war results in the said area since the early part of January up to the present are as follows:

"Losses dealt to the enemy:
Personnel.......About 4,000 (of which bodies abandoned were about 1,800)
Airplanes shot down or damaged 381
Torpedo boats sunk or damaged 12
"Loss on our side:
Killed or died from illness..
About 950
Airplanes 88

"A powerful enemy force landed on Los Negros Island in the Admiralty Group on February 29 and is gradually increasing its troops. Intercepting them, our Units and Air Units are daily engaging in a furious battle."

The Imperial Headquarters' communique issued at 3 p.m. March 14 contains the following:

"Imperial Japanese Forces in the New Guinea Island area intercepted and attacked an aggregate total of about 320 enemy planes that came attacking the Wewak sector on March 1 and 12 and shot down 52 of them (of which two unconfirmed).

"The Japanese side lost six planes self-blasted or not yet returned but the damage on the ground was negligible."

CHINA FRONT

Yangtze River Fighting

The American air force in China which is attempting to block our transportation routes on the Yangtze River was again frustrated by the Japanese Air Units on March 10 when a group of eight P-38 fighter planes were put to rout near Anking after two (unconfirmed) had been shot down.

All the Japanese planes returned to their base safely.

Enemy Losses Heavy

The United States air force in China has lost more than 34 aircraft during the 10 days from March 6-15 at the hands of the Japanese Air Force which carried out uninterrupted raids on enemy air bases at Kweilin, Henygang, Lingling, Suichwan, Chihkiang and other places in Southwestern China.

A remarkable fact in this connection is that the Japanese did not lose one plane in these air attacks and such a strategical success can be attributed to the surprise night-raid tactics which the Imperial Air Force adopted.

The series of air raids on enemy air bases was started with the night attacks on Suichwan and Hengyang airfields on March 4. Devastating attacks were then carried out against other air bases, the net results being 30 hostile aircraft destroyed or set ablaze. Moreover, four of the enemy planes that attacked Hoihow, Hainan Island, on March 13 were shot down.

HOME

Naval Warriors Decorated

In the War of Greater East Asia Naval Posthumous Honors Award announced by the Navy Ministry on March 15, 162 officers and men, including Rear-Admiral Toshio Shimizu, were granted Special Distinction Honors for outstanding gallantry in action in operations between February, 1942 and August, 1943 in the Solomons and other waters.

Cordial Hosts

Following up the luncheon held on March 4 in honor of the diplomatic representatives of the Axis and East Asiatic countries, Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu and Mrs. Shigemitsu were host and hostess to the Ambassadors and Ministers representing the other countries here and their wives at a luncheon party held at the Foreign Minister's official residence at 12:30 p.m. March 11.

Present at the function were Soviet Ambassador Yakov Malik and Mrs. Malik; Swedish Minister Widar Bagge and Mrs. Bagge; Afghanistan Minister Zul Facar Khan and Mrs. Khan; Swiss Minister Camille Gorge and Mrs. Gorge; Portuguese Minister Dr. Luiz Esteves Fernandes and Mrs. Fernandes, and Turkish Charge d'Affaires Haydar Gork and Mrs. Gork.

Representing Japan were, besides the host and hostess, Shigeru Kuriyama, former Ambassador to Belgium, and Mrs. Kuriyama; Masaaki Hotta, former Ambassador to Italy, and Mrs. Hotta; Prince Iyemasa Tokugawa and Princess Tokugawa; Foreign Vice-Minister Shunichi Matsumoto and Mrs. Matsumoto and other Foreign Office officials.

The function was brought to a close at 3:30 p.m.

P.I. Envoy Feted

Philippine Ambassador Jorge B. Vargas and staff members of the Philippines Embassy including Counsellor Francisco Lavides and Secretaries Faustino Sy Changco and Leon Maria Guerrero were guests at a tea party held at the Tokyo Young Men's Christian Association in Kanda at 3 p.m. on March 14.

Ambassador Vargas had cordial talks with Dr. Tadaoki Yamamoto, Director-General of the Y.M.C.A. and also inspected the gymnasium under the guidance of Reverend Masatake Fujita. The meeting was attended by about 50 persons.

A New Minister to China

Uzuhiko Usami, Director of the China Affairs Bureau of the Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministry, was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to China on March 15. Mr. Usami will assume his post in Shanghai.

Arata Sugihara, Councilor in the Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministry and concurrently Secretary in the Board of Information, was named director of the Chinese Affairs Bureau to succeed Mr. Usami.

Appointed Adviser

Okinori Kaya, former Finance Minister, on March 15, was appointed adviser to the Finance Ministry and concurrently a member of the National Savings Encouragement Committee. With the appointment of Mr. Kaya, the Finance Ministry now has five advisers, namely, Toyotaro Yuki, Kenji Kodama, Norihiko Yatsushiro, Ryutaro Ono and Mr. Kaya.

Undersea Tunnel Completed

The opening ceremonies for the second undersea tunnel connecting Shimonoseki and Moji were held at 9 a.m. on March 12 at Shimonoseki, Domei reports from Moji.

Attending the function were the proxy of the Minister of Transportation and Communications, other officials and the workers who had engaged in the construction of the undersea tunnel, numbering approximately 200 in all.

Honoring Germany's War Dead

Memorial services for Germany's war dead were solemnized at 10:30 a.m. March 12 at the lecture hall in the Nogyo Kaikan Marunouchi.

German Ambassador to Japan H. G. Stahmer and staff members of the local German Embassy as well as about 500 German residents in Tokyo and Yokohama attended the ceremonies.

Then, Vice-Admiral Paul Wenneker, Naval Attache to the German Embassy, delivered a commemorative address in which he emphasized that the Germans can hopefully anticipate good results to be achieved by the Reich U-boats in the blockading of Britain in the future. Vice-Admiral Wenneker also stressed the strong ties of collaboration binding Japan and Germany and said that sea communications were being maintained between the two countries in spite of the great distance.

Ambassador Stahmer made a closing address and the meeting ended at 11:30 a.m. after the singing of the German national anthem.

FOREIGN

Eire's Firm Stand

Demand that the Eire Government should make arrangements for the withdrawal of the German and Japanese representatives from Eire was contained in a note transmitted to Prime Minister Eamon De Valera by the United States Minister to Dublin on February 21.

The people of Dublin are giving enthusiastic approval to Prime Minister Eamon De Valera's rejection of the request, according to a London report.

The Prime Minister, in his rejection, pointed out that the expulsion of German and Japanese officials would be the first step toward going into war with the Axis which his country is determined not to do, and that it had received assurance from the United States that it did not intend to invade Ireland.

Thus, it was officially revealed for the first time how gravely the Dublin Government had been viewing the events of the past few weeks during which the world knew Ireland was being swept by waves of invasion jitters.

Meanwhile, it is reported that drastic measures to safeguard the plans for the second front from Axis espionage were expected to follow Prime Minister De Valera's refusal of the United States request to oust the German and Japanese diplomatic who are accused of heading a spy ring. An official American statement on this issue emphasizes that because of spy activities in Ireland "not only the success of the operations but the lives of thousands of United Nations soldiers are at stake and therefore, there is a need for early and decisive action to keep enemy agents from further enlarging their knowledge of the anti-Axis plans for the second front."

The Eire issue has a grave bearing also on the United States because Catholics of Irish extraction have strong influences in various quarters in America.

U.S. Bans Liquor Import

A severe kink in the last unhampered source of drinking liquor for the American public was made when Washington placed a ban recently on imports of liquor from countries to the south.

The new prohibition on imports of rum, gin, cordials and whiskies distilled from cane is expected to slash imports from Cuba for instance, by more than 50 per cent.

It is reported that fearing the resumption of rum running in the Caribbean, the War Production Board has notified the coast guard to be prepared to help with the enforcement of the law.

It was explained by the W.P.B. that the recent action is designed to encourage Latin-American countries to devote their molasses to production of industrial alcohol needed in war rather than for beverage.

Farrell Assumes Presidency

Brigadier-General Edelmiro Farrell formally assumed the presidency of Argentina on March 10 as successor to General Pedro Ramirez, according to an announcement made by his executive secretary Colonel Gregorio Tauber, a dispatch from Buenos Aires discloses.

It may be recalled that there had been various reports from Buenos Aires and Montevideo that Ramirez had delegated his power to Farrell last month on account of poor health and also that Ramirez had resigned at the point of the gun by military group which staged the coup d'etat.

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TOKYO, MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1944

Churchill's Repudiation of the Atlantic Charter

Attacking the equivocable attitude of Prime Minister Churchill toward the Atlantic Charter, Labor and Liberal members of the House of Commons last Thursday demanded a debate on the validity of the Atlantic Charter and its applicability to all the nations of the world. Churchill, however, peremptorily rejected the demand, leaving the matter as confused as ever.

This incident is only the latest of several occurrences which indicates that the British public is only now awakening to a realization of the fact that the Churchill Government was never sincere in its espousal of the Atlantic Charter. Although the world has long known that the Atlantic Charter was never intended to be anything more than a deceptive propagandistic device to fool the unsuspecting, the British people seem to be only now becoming aware of that fact. And that realization is causing a disquieting heart-searching among the more conscientious elements in England who are asking what they are really fighting for if the professed war aims embodied in the Atlantic Charter are nothing more than a snare and a delusion.

The immediate occasion for this questioning was Prime Minister Churchill's speech of February 22 in which he intimated that the principles of the Atlantic Charter were not applicable to enemy countries, an idea which was echoed by Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden. To give weight to the reservations voiced by Churchill and Eden are the even more expressive acts of the British Government recently in engaging in maneuvers of power politics on the European continent with respect to such problems as Poland, Jugoslavia, and Italy which are obviously in opposition to the principles professed in the Atlantic Charter. It was the moral strength emanating from the ostensible idealism of the Atlantic Charter which gave the British cause justification, contend the critics of Churchill. If the British Government abandons the Atlantic Charter, as it is now showing every signs of doing, Britain will descend into the maelstrom of power politics in which she cannot hope to compete successfully with her more powerful rivals like the Soviet Union and the United States.

Emphasizing this point, a recent leading article in The Observer states: "The chief glimpse of a better world after the war which our present government has given us was a set of solemnly proclaimed principles known as the Atlantic Charter. It was no definite and constructive political program but only a general statement of aspirations open to various interpretations and sometimes criticized for that. Still, as far as it went, it summed up some generally agreed minimum aspirations. Here was at least an assurance that the next war would not already be foreshadowed at this war's peace table. Now the government has withdrawn from the Atlantic Charter. The retreat is masked by stressing as obvious that Germany can derive no rights from it. . . . (But) we know that lasting peace cannot be attained on the basis of forced territorial changes. When we now desert this principle, we do not do so because we have become convinced of the contrary. We do it out of deference to. . . (expediency). The Atlantic Charter was an official embodiment of the principles for which we are at war. By whittling it down we are separating the policy from the principle. In the game of power politics Britain is bound to be in danger. We cannot compete in sheer physical and numerical power with the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. Part of our power has always been moral power—adherence to the principles which made others, especially the smaller nations of Europe, our natural allies. Churchill still speaks for the nation when he puts its magnificent effort and its much belittled sacrifice on record. He ceases to do so when he begins to limit the principles for which these sacrifices are made."

But it should be obvious that such criticism of Churchill's violation of the Atlantic Charter comes too late. From the very beginning he has given ample indication that he had never intended to abide by its principles. From the very beginning he excepted East Asia and the British Empire from the applications of the Charter, as when he said it did "not qualify in any way the various statements of policy which have been made from time to time about the development of constitutional government in India, Burma, or other parts of the British Empire", or when he said "I did not become the King's first minister to liquidate the British Empire". Now he has explicitly excepted Germany from its provisions. And even more eloquent than his words are the actual actions of his government in preparing the foundations of a Western European bloc to advance British interests on the European continent in utter disregard of the wishes of the European peoples, and the ruthless pressure which his government has been bringing to bear to coerce neutral states like Turkey, Spain, Argentina, and Ireland.

It is clear, therefore, that whatever the small idealistic portion of the British public had thought, the British Government itself had never considered itself as fighting for the principles of the Atlantic Charter. The British Government has always been fighting to preserve and to expand its power and profits and for nothing else. It is no wonder that Churchill therefore refuses to allow the Atlantic Charter to be made a subject of searching inquiry in the House of Commons, for it is something which cannot stand inquiry. It is a deceptive propaganda device and nothing more, which can serve Britain's ends only as long as it is kept strictly in the realm of unapplied theory, only as long as no move is ever made to put it into practice.

Thus it is that with Churchill for all intents and purposes repudiating the principles of the Atlantic Charter, Britain has no war aims which can stand the light of day. Well may the British public, except those sections which are completely selfish and cynical, ask what they are fighting for, although it would seem that it is already pretty late in the game to be asking such a fundamental question.

But if the British people are still floundering in confusion as to why they are fighting, there is no such confusion in the minds of the rest of the world. The enemies of Britain know for what unholy ends the British Government is fighting, and they know why they must fight to prevent Britain from ever gaining her ends. For only through the defeat of Britain and her allies can the world be assured of true freedom and justice, and only through the defeat of Britain and her allies can there prevail in the world the high moral principles which the Atlantic Charter with such hollowness and with such travesty pretends to proclaim.

A Year Ago Today

March 20, 1943

As an indication of their goodwill toward the Chungking regime a bill to abolish the anti-Chinese Immigration Law was introduced in the House of Representatives by Martin Kennedy, a member of the House.

* * *

Rioting of Iranian troops was further intensified when they were reinforced with arms and military supplies from certain quarters. Having secured their positions in the northern mountain region the Iranian troops attacked the Soviet-aid supply route and the transportation line between Teheran and Tiflis, completely suspending communication between the two points. Consequently, supplies which were formerly sent to the Soviet Union from anti-Axis nations via Tiflis and the Caucasus are now being transported from Teheran to the Caspian Sea.

* * *

The declaration of their determination to support the National Government of China and to cooperate with the same government for the emancipation of East Asia and the realization of the principles of Pan-Asianism advocated by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, was sent by the Overseas Chinese Association in the East Indies to President Wang Ching-wei. In view of the fact that out of approximately 10,000,000 Chinese overseas more than 7,000,000 are living within the circle of the Greater East Asia Common Prosperity Region, great importance is attached to this step.

* * *

The War Production Board of the United States announced today that the daily war expenditure of the United States is now $253,000,000.

* * *

With a view to extending its activities and to making its price-control policy more effective, the North China Price Control Committee is making preparations to establish branches in Tientsin, Tsinan, Tsingtao, Kaifeng, Hsuchow, Tangshan, Chefoo, Shihmen (Shihchiachuang), Weihaiwei, and Lungkow.

* * *

The first cotton planting of the year in Celebes was performed today near Soenggoeminasa in the outskirts of Macassar. Cotton grown in Celebes was sent to Japan last year and very favorably received.

The Hanseatic League

Study of Europe's Common Prosperity Region of Old Proves Useful to Greater East Asia

By DR. JUMPEI SHINOBU
(From the Gaiko Hyoron)

How the Common Prosperity Region of Greater East Asia should be organized is a matter which is claiming the earnest attention of many leaders in various circles. In the study of this problem, their minds will, no doubt, revert, for purposes of reference, to analogous cases in the history of the world. For instance, the constitution of the Germanic Federation or the Commonwealth of the British Empire or the relations subsisting between the United States and the Central and South American countries will, to a certain extent, form a subject for study. In the present article, I propose to describe some facts about the Hanseatic League in the hope that such a study may not altogether be fruitless.

Some six or seven hundred years ago, there was a gradual revival of the Mediterranean trade, which had temporarily declined since the collapse of the Roman Empire and the southward advance of northern tribes, and traffic with Eastern countries witnessed a steady increase. The Crusades were, as history shows, the most powerful factor in expediting the growth of this new tendency. With the revival of trade and commerce, a new life was imparted to the cities in Italy and on the Adriatic Sea, and Venice came to figure as the center of world trade, while in North Europe, the Hanseatic League came into being and showed increasing activity. The group of the cities in North Germany and neighboring countries wielded much influence in the latter part of the Middle Ages, as did the league of cities in South Europe, and the head and front of this group was the Hanseatic League, in which Lubeck, Hamburg and Bremen played the leading part.

Suffered From Extortions

In the early part of the thirteenth century, commerce in many places in North Europe suffered seriously from the extortions levied by the lords of the districts through which commodities passed, from the high customs duties imposed, and from the ravaging activities of pirates who had for their base of operation Gothland Island, which was then the center of the North Sea trade. The pirates in those days were no common sea-robbers. They were brigands whose piratical deeds were either connived at or formally sanctioned by the Governments of their countries. Among the British pirates especially there were many notorious leaders who gloried in piracy, which they regarded as an honorable avocation. For the protection of common interests against the pirates, traders in many towns banded themselves together. Between Lubeck and Hamburg, a treaty was concluded in 1241 for the protection of trade between the Elbe and the Trave and for the policing of the water-routes leading to the sea. In this pact it is said the Hanseatic League originated.

In 1255, the six cities of Mainz, Cologne, Worms, Speyer, Strassburg and Basel in West Germany formed the Rhine League (which is different from a confederation of the name-sake formed among the cities in West and North Europe in 1654), to which over sixty towns became affiliated subsequently. At one time, it possessed a combined squadron of six hundred vessels, which it disposed on the Rhine to undertake patrol duty. In 1259 or four years after this League was formed, Hamburg and many other towns in North Europe located between the Baltic Sea and the Elbe organized a larger-scale trade confederation. During the following twenty odd years, its membership steadily expanded until in 1282 over sixty towns were affiliated. The powerful Hanseatic League came into being in this way. As some one aptly described it, the League was "a loose but effective federation." Though effective, there was much ambiguity as to its exact character. In regard to mutual relationships of these towns there were points which could not be legally defined, and yet it is an indisputable fact that this League constituted an important co-prosperity sphere of North Europe in those days.

In its most prosperous days, the entire extent of the Hanseatic League was divided into four areas. The first area had its headquarters at Wenden and it had jurisdiction over the cities on the east and south coasts of the Baltic. The second area had its headquarters at Westphalia, with jurisdiction over the cities in West Germany. The third area which had the various cities in Germany under its jurisdiction and the fourth area with northeastern cities under its jurisdiction had their headquarters in Saxony and Prussia respectively. The supreme general headquarters was provided at Lubeck. The influence of the Hanseatic League went on extending externally as it became more strengthened internally. Toward the end of the thirteenth century, it brought within its orbit Novgorod, an independent city, in Russia which, though still undeveloped, was beginning to attract attention as a country rich in resources.

In the west, after 1350, its membership so expanded as to include various cities located from the river mouth of the Schelde of Belgium to Esthonia. Thus, the number of towns affiliated to the League went on increasing until it exceeded seventy (although no authentic records are available as to the exact number, it seems fairly certain that in the days when it was most prosperous the League had a total membership of some seventy towns).

Especially after 1379, when Richard the Second granted certain commercial privileges to the Hanseatic merchants in compliance with their request, their influence extended to England, and London was at one time within the League. The delegates of all affiliated towns usually met at Lubeck triennially or, if the occasion demanded it, yearly or biennially about May, the best season for travelling. The towns which failed to send their delegates to these general assemblies three times without justifiable reasons were expelled from the League, and they were accordingly deprived of all the privileges to which they were entitled as its members. At the general assemblies, the participating delegates discussed various problems connected with the League, promulgated laws and regulations, drew up plans for the defense of the affiliated towns and for safeguarding the sea and land routes of trade, carried out the recruitment or organization of troops and even undertook mediation not only in commercial disputes but in political controversies. Although it had no territory of its own, the League was virtually a powerful federation. In its fightings with Denmark, Norway and Sweden, it generally won, and its influence reigned supreme in North Europe. It was not exactly an offensive and defensive alliance in the strict sense of the term, but there is no denying the fact that it constituted one powerful factor regulating international relations in those days.

Waned in 15th Century

The Hanseatic League's influence began to wane about the beginning of the fifteenth century, and the process of its decline was accentuated after it lost its monopolistic position on the Baltic Sea under the Copenhagen Treaty (1441) signed following its defeat in the fighting with the Netherlands.

Many causes may be given for the decline and the final collapse of the League, but the more important causes may be summed up as follows:—

1. With the growth of the idea of national sovereignty in North Europe as in other parts of Europe, such a strong outside pressure was gradually exerted on the League, which had been exercising sovereign powers despite its possession of no territory, that it was unable to resist it successfully.

2. Of the few leading cities within the League, Lubeck was particularly powerful and it behaved as though it were in control of all the affiliated cities. Against this presumptuous and arbitrary attitude of Lubeck there was a gradual growth of animosity among the members of the League.

3. The remarkable changes in the world situation in the sequel of the discovery of the American Continent and especially the changes which came over the position of the cities in North Europe in consequence of the expansion of the lines of communication with West Europe and Eastern regions—more particularly the maritime development of England—led to the overthrow of the monopoly of North Europe trade which the Hanse towns had enjoyed. Besides, the policy upheld by the League forbidding trade with South Europe and other districts except by ships belonging to the affiliated towns provoked bitter opposition from many countries.

4. There was a gradual removal of that insecurity in sea and land communications which was one chief factor in the formation of the Hanseatic League, in consequence of the advance of civilization and the natural development of closer means of communication.

5. The principle of monopoly having been the keynote of the League, the policy of exclusion was adopted toward non-League cities and towns—a policy framed along lines similar to those of the colonial policy which Spain and Portugal pursued in later years and failed.

6. With the loss (about the time when King Christian the Second was enthroned in Denmark in 1513) of the voice the Hanse towns had had in the matter of the succession to the Danish throne since the conclusion of the Stralsund Treaty of 1370, the political influence of the League declined considerably, with the result that its hegemony over the Scandinavian countries was lost.

7. After the Religious Reformation of the sixteenth century, antagonism between the Roman Catholics and the Protestants within the League grew, resulting in the development of one dispute after another in succession.

8. Due to the mercenary system generally adopted by League cities, the League's military strength became gradually weakened until it was rendered inadequate to resist encroachments by neighboring countries.

Broke Away From Lubeck

9. The province of Livonia on the Gulf of Riga (which had Esthonia and Kurland within its jurisdiction then) which Lubeck had long regarded as its treasure-house, gradually broke away from Lubeck, and in the latter part of the sixteenth century, it was virtually divided up between the Russian and Polish Slavs and the Swedish and Danish Scandinavian races. This led to the collapse of Lubeck's position in the Baltic Sea and in Russia, culminating in the marked weakening of the framework of the League.

10. In the Thirty Years War, each of the belligerent groups attempted to win the Hanse cities over to its side, but the League held to the attitude of neutrality, on the whole. It nevertheless suffered disastrously from the devastating effects of the hostilities and its decline was consequently accelerated.

11. Besides, there is a point of view which attributes the weakness of the Hanseatic League to the fact that it lacked an industrial background, its leaders having consisted almost exclusively of traders, forwarding agents and middlemen. This view has much to commend it.

The causes which I have enumerated above without regard to order of importance combined to weaken the Hanseatic League until it finally came to ruin. Some of these causes may give food for thought to those interested in maintaining the Common-Prosperity Region of Greater East Asia in a sound state for all time to come. Every Japanese is naturally most anxious to see the Common Prosperity Region of Greater East Asia have an everlasting life so that all countries and peoples within it may live in mutual reliance and aid forever and ever. In order to promote this end, analogous international groups in the past may profitably be studied and the history of their rise and fall carefully examined.

ENEMY RAW MATERIAL SHORTAGE ACUTE

Loss of East Asia Sources Heavy Blow to Industries

Editor's Note: Under the title of "The Re-investigation of America's Economic War Strength," a recent publication of the Keizai Mainichi delves into the study of the limitations of America's vast munitions production. The following article points out America's acute shortage in essential raw materials with which she is faced at present.

Surveying the natural resources that are required in production, the United States lacks 21 important war products, namely, aluminum, antimony, chromium, coconut, coffee, leather, iodine, manganese, Manila hemp, mica, nickel, opium, optical glass, crystallized quartz, mercury, quinine, rubber, silk, tin, tungsten and wool. Of these vital war products, those that America must import from outside the Western Hemisphere are rubber, tin, tungsten, manganese, chromium, and antimony. Consequently, the loss of these products in Greater East Asia has dealt a hard blow.

Following are the statistics of raw materials showing America's percentage of self-sufficiency and also her import figures:

Product	Av. 1937-9 Self-sufficiency (Pct.)	Import Country	1939 Import	1st half 1940 Import Amt.	1st half 1940 Import Pct.	1940 Import from G.E.A. (Pct.)
Antimony	11.0 (C)		18.896	16.421	100.0	
Chromium (A)	0.5		134.891	153.120	100.0	
		Philippines	28.624	40.225	26.3	41.5
		India	8.170	6.937	4.6	
		French Oceania	7.572	16.199	10.6	
Manganese (containing over 35 per cent)	4.3		702.934	592.776	100.0	
		India	102.046	57.187	9.9	13.2
		Philippines	7.802	19.246	3.3	
Manila hemp (A)	0		45.932	27.724	100.0	
		Philippines	45,212	26.637	96.1	100.0
		East Indies	720	1.073	3.9	
Mica	22.0 (D)		3.267	4.728	100.0	
		India	2.381	4.217	89.2	89.2
Nickel	0.7 (C)		99.309	59.266	100.0	
Crystallized quartz			67	37	100.0	
Cinchona	0		2.030	971	100.0	
Sulphate of quinine (B)	0	East Indies	1.984	867	89.3	89.3
Alkaloids			2.585	1.895	100.0	
Salts		East Indies	—	700	36.9	36.9
Raw Rubber (excluding latex and guayule)	0		1.052.679	739.944	100.0	
		Malai	597.318	423.766	57.3	98.7
		East Indies	290.141	222.493	30.1	
Raw Rubber (cont.)		Ceylon	77.904	53.908	7.3	
		India, Burma	7.548	9.594	1.3	
		Fren. Indo-China	58.207	20.076	2.7	
Raw Silk	0		51.595	15.838	100.0	
		Japan	44.578	12.306	77.7	90.4
		China	5.862	2.007	12.7	
Tin (lumps)	0.2		157.029	119.084	100.0	
		Malai	104.799	101.456	85.2	93.4
		East Indies	11.907	4.575	3.8	
		China, Hongkong	9.678	5.305	4.4	
Tungsten Ore (consumed)	58.8		1.485	2.695	100.0	
		China	900	1.103	40.9	61.5
		Malai	124	119	4.4	
		India, Burma	13	114	4.2	
		Thailand	—	66	2.4	
		Australia	57	339	12.6	

(Note: The above statistics were compiled from the 51st publication of the Nippon Keizai Nenpo. The import figures are given on the basis of 1,000 pounds. However, (A) indicates British 1,000 tons, (B) 1,000 ounces, (C) percentage of self-sufficiency for the 1936-38 average, and (D) the 1937-38 average.)

Dependency On Asia

Heretofore, the United States was greatly dependant on Greater East Asia, as is indicated by the 1940 statistics which show that the United States exported 17 per cent to the area, while importing 37 per cent. This clearly shows that instead of being an export market, it was a material-acquiring base for the United States, indispensable for wartime materials.

In 1940, America's dependency on East Asia was more than 89 per cent for six products. Therefore, as early as September, 1942, because she was unable to obtain sufficient supplies of manganese, chromium and tungsten required in the manufacture of common and special steel and copper, tin, aluminum and magnesium, the tempo of America's increased war production came to a temporary halt. It was only due to government and civilian stock on hand and the diversion of idle facilities which made it possible for her to break this stagnation.

Exhaust Pre-war Stock

At the outbreak of the War it seemed America had approximately two years' stock of those materials which were impossible for her to self-supply. In that case, as she has been cut off from Greater East Asia sources America must be faced with a bottleneck since the autumn of last year, though, up to then, she might have temporized by means of the diversion of idle facilities and the compression of civilian production.

Although the change in war production policies undergone on September 15, last year, may said to be in line with the war situation, it cannot be denied that the lack of materials was a big factor in the said change. We see that in 1943 the basic departments of war production which produced finishing materials had the tendency of changing to increased production of raw materials.

The plan to increase magnesium output to 320,000 tons for 1943 was one of the measures the United States took in order to increase her raw material production. In spite of proclaiming this enormous production, actually, America only produced 18,000 tons in 1941, slightly more than 30,000 tons in 1942, and only 70,000 tons in 1943. This shows that her war production is faced with a major issue and at the same time reveals that she has reached an acme in her war production despite her boastful propaganda.

In this light, the expansion of equipments of America's basic industries is necessary. However, with the scramble for raw materials becoming aggravated and their insufficiency an actuality, there is little room for doubt that it will become more difficult of realization.

SONGS FROM PRISON

By MAHATMA GANDHI

Even as Light, from the one great
  Sun,
Shineth to all men's eyes,
But remaineth for ever unmarried
by the dimness which blurreth
  those eyes:

So also the Spirit of God,
Indwelling all life,
Standeth apart and secure from
the manifold evils in man.

U.S. SEIZES CONTROL OF CHUNGKING

Prerogative of Command Usurped by American Officers

By MASAHIRO IMAIZUMI
(From the Sekai Shukan)

Chungking commands an essential position from a strategic point of view in the anti-Axis front in the War of Greater East Asia. But, should it fall out of the enemy front, it would not be of much concern to the anti-Axis, for it would simply mean that they had withdrawn to their first line of defense, India. It may not be a difficult problem to include Chungking in their own lines of defense, but strong and direct military aid must be continued or she would be impotent. The fighting strength of Chungking alone, pitted in an effort to check Japan, would literally end in its obliteration. America must increase her aid, establish strategic bases for her counter-offensive and from these, plan for the attack on Japan.

On the other hand, the real aim of Chiang Kai-shek is to divert the full pressure of America against us and in the meantime build up her strength, conserve her military forces, and proceed with her national reconstruction under the traditional policy of "conquering the foreigners by using foreigners." This has been the foundation of the military cooperation between America and Chungking. While one has always tried to use the Continent as the stepping stone for military operations, the other has forever utilized American power to improve its position and lessen the sacrifices as much as possible. In other words, it is a matter of trying to "out fox" each other. Chungking announced a general counter-offensive against the Japanese Forces by the much boasted army of 3,000,000 well-trained troops. In reality, this is a sadly beaten army. Furthermore, very recently the "Flying Tigers" of the Chungking air force were withdrawn for the defense of the city of Chungking and never encountered by our airmen. From these facts, we can fully see the secret designs of the Chungking regime.

Reconstruction Pushed

Chungking is putting much effort toward national reconstruction, especially in the northwest. Though according to reports, it is not progressing as expected, the grasping of administrative powers there may be a fact. Actually she is trying to use other powers to exert pressure while she herself is concentrating her own strength for the organization of her interior.

But with the progress of the fighting, these designs will finally reach their limit. Because she herself has no power, it is a gross miscalculation if she thinks she can use another with success. The "Flying Tigers" of the Chungking air force were finally incorporated into the American air force based in China. American-trained Chinese are being sent to the front lines in great numbers where they fall easy victims to our pilots. With promise of aerial support from the "Second to none air force," her army tried to resist our advance troops—something they had never done before—and suffered extreme reverses. The Changteh operations are one of such examples.

We can state definitely that Chungking has lost the ability to plan operations. It is the case of a weakling trying to use the power of a giant, but resulting in being floored by its strength.

But that is not all. The leaders of the American force in China have appeared at the Supreme Council of National Defense in Chungking and extended their grip even to the sacred prerogative of supreme command. The strengthening of the military grip on Chungking is the characteristic aspect of the recent Chungking-American relations.

In national reconstruction, Chungking alone can do nothing. She must depend on American capital and skill. Economically, Chungking has often been forced to rely on America. Furthermore, the mass training of air force crews or of the soldiers are conducted under American supervision. These youths naturally will become pro-American. It must not be forgotten that she is grasping the minds of the Chinese youths who easily fall victims to the lure of the dollar. Economical and ideological control form the basis of military control. While being completely Americanized and gradually losing her independent characteristics, the infiltration of American influence in all fields is a tendency that can hardly be avoided. And that is the road to the American colonization of Chungking.

Fruits of Wisdom

The Sciences are beneficent. They prevent men from thinking.—Anatole France.

* * *

When I caution you against becoming a miser, I do not therefore advise you to become a prodigal or a spendthrift.—Horace.